



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Roy Phillip DeMott, Kimberly C. Gillis, and Ernest G. Stringer

Serial Number: 09/527,629

Filed: March 17, 2000

For: **ABSORBENT FABRICS, PRODUCTS, AND METHOD**

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Befumo, Jenna Leigh

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C. Gue
7/18/02

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 21, 2001.

Please amend the above application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATIONPage 24, **replace** the paragraph at lines 9 – 12 with the following:

A1

With reference to Figure 4 of the drawings, upper surface 38 of a fabric piece 36 (sanded technical back) may be textured by creating surface formations such as grooves, recesses, or the like.

It is evident that such surface formations provide increased surface area, absorbency, etc.

Page 17, **replace** the paragraph at lines 9 – 16 with the following:

A2

Advantageously, the yarn and/or fabric is chemically treated to render it hydrophilic. For example, the fabric may be treated with an anionic-ethoxylated sulfonated polyester (AESP, surfactant/stabilizer agent) and a high molecular weight ethoxylated polyester (HMWEP, lubricant/softener agent). This treatment allows the polyester fabric to absorb water very rapidly and promotes wicking, water transport, and dissipating through the fabric, and liquid retention, with the result that the surface of the fabric quickly feels dry to the touch. The treatment also helps to prevent staining, improves washing performance and reduces creasing.

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